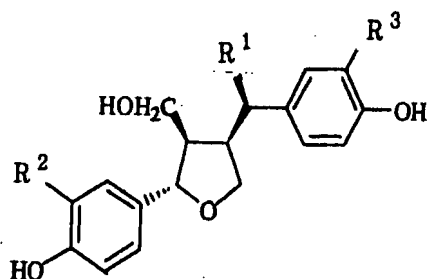


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. A ~~drug~~ hypoglycaemic agent comprising a compound shown in the formula (1)



(1)

(wherein R¹ is a hydrogen or a hydroxyl group, R² is either an alkyloxy group or a hydroxyl group, both with the carbon number of 1 to 4 and R³ is an alkyloxy group with the carbon number of 1 to 4) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester of said compound in the formula (1) as an effective ingredient.

2 – 8 (Canceled)

Amendment

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9. (New) A hepatoprotective agent comprising said compound shown in the formula (1) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester of said compound in the formula (1) as an effective ingredient.